

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 01806 221050Z

11

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

DHA-02 /065 W

----- 123633

R 220930Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4345

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY GABARONE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR RH MZ

SUBJECT: INTERVIEW WITH NKOMO CONFIDANTE

FOR CHARGE ARENALES FROM JACOBSEN

1. CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR CORRESPONDENT ROBIN WRIGHT INTERVIEWED NKOMO CONFIDANTE ARISTON CHAMBATI DEC 14. CHAMBATI IS RHODESIAN PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIEN E WHO SAYS HE ACCOMPANIED NKOMO ON MOZAMBIQUE VISIT RECENTLY. HE TOLD HER FOLLOWING:

(A) LEADERSHIP -- IF NKOMO CAN PULL OFF AGREEMENT WITH SMITH DEVISING SOME FORMULA ABLE TO BE TERMED "MAJORITY RULE" (SUCH AS TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT WITH BLACK MAJORITY IN CABINET), PRESIDENTS MACHEL AND NYERERE WILL JOIN KAUNDA IN SUPPORTING HIM. IF NKOMO FAILS, HE WILL BECOME "IRRELEVANT". RIGHT NOW, NYERERE AND MACHEL WERE DESCRIBED AS BEING LUKEWARM ABOUT ALL CANDIDATES FOR LEADERSHIP AND ARE INCLINED TO THINK SOMEONE NEW MUST BE FOUND TO BRING UNITY TO THE ANC. IN FRONT OF NKOMO MACHEL DERIDED MUZOREWA.

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PAGE 02 JOHANN 01806 221050Z

(B) MACHEL TOLD NKOMO RANKS OF RECRUITS BEING SWELLED AT FAST CLIP.

NKOMO DESCRIBED AS BEING SURPRISED AT NUMBERS AND GROWTH RATE.
MACHEL GAVE NUMBERS AS FOLLOWS: MOZAMBIQUE - 16,000; TANZANIA -2,000;
BOTSWANA - 1,000. RECRUITS ARE, HOWEVER, SPLIT IN THEIR
LOYALTIES WITH SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS BACKING EACH OF THE THREE CON-
TESTANTS, NKOMO, SITHOLE AND ROBERT MUGABE.

(C) SANCTIONS -- MACHEL SAID AT PRESENT LEVERAGE GREATER BY NOT
APPLYING SANCTIONS BUT HE WOULD DO SO IMMEDIATELY IF HE THOUGHT IT
WOULD BE DECISIVE.
GUTHRIE

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